

## PIEDMONT RESEARCH STATION

### Salisbury, N.C.

The Piedmont Research Station (PRS) is located 9 miles west of Salisbury. Originally established in 1903 as the Piedmont Test Farm near Statesville, the station was moved in 1954 to its present site on 1,044 acres. Major facilities at the station include a primary dairy complex, a calf housing and research building, and a heifer research facility. The station also includes a Crops Unit and a Poultry Unit with a hatchery, pullet grow-out and layer houses that are curtain-sided and environmentally controlled, a broiler breeder facility, an egg processing building, and a mortality composting facility. The PRS first served as a testing ground for fertilizers and concentrated on crop and livestock issues significant to the area. Research has expanded to involve dairy cattle, poultry, field crops, forage crops, horticultural crops, pastures, and soils.

**Salisbury—Table 1. Means and Extremes of Temperature, Precipitation, and Degree Days by Month, 1971-2000**

Normal	Category	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Daily Temp. (°F)	Maximum	50.8	55.6	64.1	73.0	79.6	86.1	89.5	87.8	81.8	72.4	62.5	53.5	71.4
	Minimum	29.5	31.8	39.1	46.4	55.1	63.5	67.8	66.6	59.7	47.1	38.6	31.8	48.1
	Average	40.2	43.7	51.6	59.7	67.4	74.8	78.7	77.2	70.8	59.8	50.6	42.7	59.8
Monthly Precip. (in.)		3.53	3.60	4.18	3.28	3.76	3.91	3.94	3.19	3.69	3.63	3.04	3.11	42.86
Monthly Degree-Days	Heating	771	597	417	174	46	0	0	0	17	203	435	694	3,354
	Cooling	0	0	0	15	118	296	424	378	190	40	0	0	1,461
Extreme Monthly Temp. (°F)	Highest	50.9	51.4	56.7	63.4	72.1	78.6	83.1	80.4	74.7	66.2	57.6	51.4	
	Year	1974	1976	1997	1981	1991	1986	1993	1987	1998	1984	1985	1971	
	Lowest	29.7	35.7	47.2	55.5	63.5	70.8	75.7	74.7	67.5	52.9	44.9	34.5	
	Year	1977	1978	1971	1983	1992	1979	1979	1985	1974	1988	1996	2000	

**Salisbury —Table 2. Growing Season Data, 1971-2000**

Base Temp. (°F)	Date Of Last Spring Occurrence					Date Of First Fall Occurrence					Length of Season (Days)				
	Median	Early	25%	75%	Late	Median	Early	25%	75%	Late	Median	Shortest	25%	75%	Longest
32	4/8	2/1	3/29	4/14	5/9	10/29	10/3	10/19	11/5	12/3	204	155	193	214	246
28	3/23	2/10	3/13	4/1	4/24	11/9	10/11	11/3	11/17	12/8	230	185	220	245	293
24	3/9	2/5	2/27	3/19	4/24	11/16	10/12	11/10	11/26	12/28	256	201	242	270	325
20	2/23	1/20	2/12	3/4	3/29	12/2	11/8	11/25	12/11	12/31	282	238	267	302	327
16	2/13	1/1	1/30	2/25	3/21	12/13	11/14	12/3	12/18	12/31	300	251	287	316	338

**Salisbury —Table 3. Means and Highs of Snowfall (in.) by Month and Season, 1971-2000**

Month	Mean	High	High Year
Jan.	2.1	20.5	1962
Feb.	1.7	20.0	1979
Mar.	0.9	20.0	1927
Apr.	0	0	—
May	0	0	—
June	0	0	—
July	0	0	—
Aug.	0	0	—
Sept.	0	0	—
Oct.	0	0	—
Nov.	0	2.5	1914
Dec.	1.0	19.0	1935
Annual	5.8	27.5	1927
Winter	4.9	21.0	1930
Spring	0.9	20.0	1927
Summer	0	0	—
Fall	0	2.5	1914